

104<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# S. 620

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey, upon request, certain property in Federal reclamation projects to beneficiaries of the projects and to set forth a distribution scheme for revenues from reclamation project lands.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 24 (legislative day, MARCH 23), 1995

Mr. CRAIG (for himself and Mr. DOMENICI) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey, upon request, certain property in Federal reclamation projects to beneficiaries of the projects and to set forth a distribution scheme for revenues from reclamation project lands.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

### 3   **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Reclamation Facilities  
5   Transfer Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. TRANSFER OF FEDERAL RECLAMATION FACILITIES**  
2 **TO PROJECT BENEFICIARIES.**

3       Upon request by an eligible project beneficiary and  
4 subject to valid existing rights, the Secretary shall transfer  
5 without consideration and at no cost to the project bene-  
6 ficiary all right, title, and interest of the United States  
7 in and to the reclamation project property described pur-  
8 suant to section 3.

9 **SEC. 3. DESCRIPTION OF RECLAMATION PROJECT PROP-**  
10 **ERTY ELIGIBLE FOR TRANSFER**

11       Within ninety days after receiving a request under  
12 section 2, the Secretary shall prepare and provide to the  
13 eligible project beneficiary—

14           (1) a description of all reclamation project  
15 drainage and distribution facilities and related lands;

16           (2) a description of all acquired lands, both sur-  
17 face and subsurface estate within the reclamation  
18 project; and

19           (3) an identification of all outstanding leases on  
20 acquired lands associated with the project with re-  
21 spect to which such request is made.

22 **SEC. 4. DISPOSITION OF CERTAIN REVENUES.**

23       (a) DISPOSITION OF PROFITS OF PROJECT TAKEN  
24 OVER BY WATER USERS.—Revenues from whatever  
25 source previously collected from project lands transferred  
26 under section 2 which have been placed in the reclamation

1 fund on behalf of the project shall, upon the transfer of  
2 such project lands, be made immediately available to the  
3 project beneficiary under the distribution scheme set forth  
4 in subsection I of section 4 of the Act of December 5,  
5 1924 (43 U.S.C. 501: commonly referred to as the “Fact  
6 Finders Act of 1924”).

7 (b) LEASES.—The project beneficiary to whom  
8 project lands are transferred under section 2 shall be enti-  
9 tled to immediately assume the management of all existing  
10 leases and shall be entitled to any revenues accruing after  
11 the date of such transfer from leases on such lands.

12 **SEC 5. DEFINITIONS.**

13 As used in this Act—

14 (1) the term “eligible project beneficiary”  
15 means the beneficiary of a Federal reclamation  
16 project who has operated and maintained Federal  
17 reclamation facilities and has repaid all allocated  
18 construction costs which are the responsibility of the  
19 project beneficiary, whether paid over the term of  
20 the contract or prepaid; and

21 (2) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary  
22 of the Interior.

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